

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAHORE 01109 201024Z

15

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /114 W

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R 200945Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0118

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

UNCLAS LAHORE 1109

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: INTERNED BALUCH LEADERS TO TO COURT

REF: A. ISLAMABAD 7887; B. KARACHI 1717

1. ACCORDING TO LAHORE PRESS AUGUST 17, LAHORE HIGH COURT JUSTICE AGREED AUGUST 16 TO HEAR BAIL PETITION FILED ON BEHALF OF INTERNED NAP BALUCH LEADERS BIZENJO, MENGAL, MARRI AND COL. SULTAN MAHMOOD KHAN. JUSTICE ISSUED SHOWCAUSE NOTICE TO ATTORNEY GENERAL OF PAKISTAN AND ADVOCATE GENERAL OF PUNJAB. PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY IS MAHMUD ALI KASURI, MNA (TIP).

2. IN PETITION, BALUCH LEADERS CLAIMED THEY WERE ARRESTED ABOUT ONE YEAR AGO ON BASIS OF POLICE REPORT MADE AT OTHAL THANA IN LASBELA DISTRICT, BALUCHISTAN, ON CHARGES OF SEDITION, CORRUPTION AND OTHER CRIMES. HOWEVER, THEY COMPLAINED, THEY HAD NOT BEEN PRODUCED BEFORE ANY COURT. ACCORDING TO PETITION, BIZENJO IS IMPRISONED AT MIANWALI, MENGAL AT SAHIWAL, MARRI AT LYALLPUR AND COL. KHAN AT LAHORE. (PREVIOUS PRESS REPORTS INDICATED LEADERS HAD ALL BEEN SHIFTED TO CENTRAL JAIL MULTAN.)

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PAGE 02 LAHORE 01109 201024Z

3. AUGUST 20 LAHORE URDU PRESS QUOTES RELIABLE SOURCES AS INDICATING ALL FOUR WILL BE MOVED TO LAHORE IN DAY OR TWO. SAME SOURCES CLAIMED THAT FOUR NAP SENATORS FROM BALUCHISTAN SAW MENGAL IN SAHIWAL AUGUST 18.

4. GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PAKISTAN TIMES AUGUST 20 REPORTS THAT GOP "INVESTIGATION INTO CHARGES AGAINST FOUR NAP LEADERS HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND TRIAL WOULD BEGIN BEFORE SPECIAL TRIBUNAL SOON." PAPER SAID THIS WAS STATED AS PART OF SUBMISSION TO HIGH COURT BY ASSISTANT ADVOCATE GENERAL (AAG) OF PUNJAB PLEADING FOR DISMISSAL OF JULY 1973 HIGH COURT ORDER DIRECTING AUTHORITIES NOT TO REMOVE ACCUSED FROM COURT'S JURISDICTION. STORY REPORTS AAG'S PLEA INTENDED TO PERMIT REMOVAL OF NAP LEADERS TO BALUCHISTAN FOR TRIAL. HIGH COURT SCHEDULED TO HEAR COUNTER-ARGUMENTS FROM DEFENSE ATTORNEY AUGUST 23 ALONG WITH BAIL PETITION.

5. COMMENT: COURT ACTIONS UNDERSTOOD TO BE DIRECT RESULT OF PRIME MINISTER'S RESTITUTION OF BASIC RIGHTS (REFTEL A). SPENGLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, BALUCHISTAN, CIVIL DISORDERS, TRIALS, POLITICAL PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LAHORE01109
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740228-1215
From: LAHORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740834/aaaabcqk.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. ISLAMABAD 7887; B. KARACHI 1717
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 FEB 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNED BALUCH LEADERS TO TO COURT
TAGS: PINT, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005